



The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events
For York County Extension Volunteers

Vol. 6, Issue 5
May, 2005

Calendar of Future Events

See Calendar on the last page for Current Events

June 1, 6:30 pm	4-H Mum Project, Propagation, York County General Service Bldg.
June 4, 9:30 am	Jr. 4-H Camp Adult & Teen Counselor training, Jamestown 4-H Center
June 4, 10:30-noon	MG Summer Social at Waterman's Museum Carriage House overlooking the York River
June 8, 9:30-11:30am	Landscape Series, Hank & Leslie Vicellio, and Jim Orband
June 9, 9:00-noon	Advanced Lawn Clinic, St. Joan of Arc
June 10, 9:00am-3:00am	Latecomers Pesticide Recertification
June 14, 9:30-11:30am	Monthly Programming Meeting
June 15, 9:30-11:30am	Landscape Series, Helen Janele
June 17, 9:30-11:30am	Lawn Practice Session (location to be announced)
June 20-22	Spring Study Trip
June 21-26	Master Gardener College at Virginia Tech
June 29, 9:30-11:30am	Lawn Practice Session (location to be announced)

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Jody at 890-4940, or Byrdie Hawley at 898-6175 or E-mail dabhawley@cox.net (Put Green Thumb in the subject line). The deadline for the Green Thumb is ALWAYS the 15th of the month, no exception.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Jody. Jody will pass the word. We want to keep in contact with you. These changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

Thursdays Work/Learn Day in the Learning Garden 9:30 – 11:30 a.m:

For May only the meeting will be on the **second** Thursday at 9:30 in the Environmental Services Building and then we will go to the garden, time permitting. Don't forget the **Plant Sale May 7, 9:30-Noon. The MG pre-sale is Friday, May 6, 10:00 am-noon – 5 plant limit.** Come and help prepare and then come and **BUY!!**

Master Gardener Mission Statement

Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

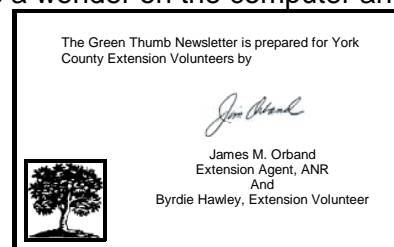
Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless, of race, color, religion, sex, Age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Notes from Jim

It is my pleasure to share with you some news about Jody. Jody recently traveled to Roanoke to accept an award for Meritorious Support Service that was awarded by the Epsilon Sigma Phi Chapter of the Extension Agents Association. Jody was sited for her persistent work with the website. Jody serves well the needs of the Extension program. She is able to shuffle many tasks very effectively. She is a wonder on the computer and able to work with the newest technology to give our office a professional look. Please let Jody know how much she is appreciated in the Extension Office.

I hope that you were able to take part in the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on April 29. I appreciate all that you do for the program. It was so good to see so many of you at the Quarterly Meeting. It is always good to catch up.

Enjoy your summer. Take time to enjoy your garden. **Jim**



Be sure to listen to “Gardening Hearsay” on May 26 (Thursday), 12:00–1:00 pm on WHRO – 89.5.

Coordinator Comments: Thank you to everyone for the wonderful food and fellowship at the Quarterly Meeting in April. There were 40% of the current MGs at the meeting and it was nice to see those we don't often run into. Particular thanks to Felice Bond for showing her slides and talking to us about her trip to Belize. It's nice to broaden our horizons and I'll never look at a forest again without thinking of the different layers. Thank you Felice for all your time and willingness to share with us. It's amazing how much knowledge and talent there is in our MG group!!

There are a lot of opportunities for MGs now with the Plant Health Clinics, the Landscape Study Series, the Spring Study Trip, MG College and the Summer Social. Check your calendars and fill in all the dates now so you won't miss anything. Information on all of those programs should be in this issue of the Green Thumb. An item that is news to everyone is the Summer Social. Look for details in this Green Thumb and we hope to see all of you there. Thanks for all your hard work!!

Terry Hanson, Coordinator

SUMMER SOCIAL

You've worked hard all spring and now is the time to spend a couple of hours with other MGs just socializing. Our Summer Social is scheduled: June 4th, Waterman's Museum Carriage House overlooking the York River, 10:30-12:00. Coffee, juice, cinnamon rolls and muffins will be provided. You are encouraged to bring a fruit salad or baked good to share (something that will keep in the car if you stroll around after the social). The cost will be \$2/family. Spouses and children are welcome to attend! After our social, you may want to visit the Waterman's Museum and gift shop, explore the newly opened Riverwalk Landing, hit the beach along the York River, or stroll through Historic Yorktown. We are getting the Carriage House at no cost, so I encourage all of you to visit the Museum and shop and tell them how much we appreciate them supporting MGs!

Remember:

June 4th, 10:30 – 12:00

Waterman's Museum Carriage House

\$2/family

Sign up and drop your \$2 off at the office with Jody

Questions? Call Terry Hanson 872-9639 or Rebecca Cho 565-7050

Don't forget the Learning Garden Plant Sale, May 7, 9:00-Noon !!

Spring Study Trip – June 20-22, 2005

We will go through Charlottesville, Staunton, Lexington, Lynchburg, Powhatan, Richmond and home again. The dates are June 20-22 and those who plan to attend Master Gardener College can leave the tour at Lynchburg on Wednesday and drive down to VT. The rest of us will head back towards home stopping at a few places. (This part of the plan remains tentative. We have to find out more about MG College attendees).

Tentative plans are some gardens in the Charlottesville area, then on to Andre Viette's Farm and Nursery. Staunton is on our schedule for at least a meal at Mrs. Rowe's. Springdale Water Nursery is always fun and Buffalo Springs Herb Farm is also between Staunton and Lexington. Jim and the extension agents from the Lexington and Lynchburg areas are working on a list of private gardens to visit on their home turf. Boxerwood Gardens in Lexington looks interesting. We are hoping Dr. Banks will be with us to visit the landscaping he designed at the bed and breakfast at Powhatan on our way to Richmond. Richmond has the Virginia House and Maymont (with the new Japanese Gardens). We hope to arrange a stop at Sandy's Nursery in Mechanicsville to ride the golf carts around and see if we can squeeze any more plants into vehicles.

Details may change, but as usual I will find housing and let you know where we will be staying; then it is up to you to make reservations and pick roommates. You will be responsible for your housing, meals and any garden entrance fees. We will have two vans going. You may car pool if you do not make the list for riding on the vans. You may take a hubby, wife or friend along but they cannot ride on either County van because of insurance restrictions. Anyone wanting to make arrangement to meet us for the visit to Powhatan and/or Richmond for the day can surely do so.

It is a good idea to pack lightly to make room in your vehicles for PLANTS. We stop regularly for breaks and FOOD and most have cell phones these days to keep in touch if needed.

Please call me or e-mail me if you have any questions or if you were not at the meeting and want to go on a GREAT trip with fun loving gardeners and our own Jim Orband and maybe Dr. Banks.

IF ANY OF YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF GARDENS WE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN ON OUR ROUTE, PLEASE CALL ME OR JIM. **Eleanor Hill, 868-8646, captmi@cox.net**

2005 4-H Chrysanthemum Project: On May 25 at 6:30 pm, at the YC General Service Building, the 4-H Chrysanthemum Orientation will take place. MG's interested in helping with the program, please contact Rene' Kauder at 868-9606 or rbkauder@cox.net for more information and to sign up to help. The registration for youth ages 10 – 15 ends May 18th. Thanks! **Rene' Kauder**

Horticultural Therapy Notes: Needed items: floral foam (can be used), wire, tape, etc. The next session will be **May 24, 2005 at 10:15 AM** at **York Convalescent Center**. Contact Brenda Bradshaw to volunteer: 898-4733 or email C.Bradshaw@att.net. **Brenda Bradshaw**

On-Site Plant Health Clinics: Please join us in neighborhood gardens as we help citizens identify proper and improper gardening techniques. Master Gardeners will assist in a brief review of existing problems. Afterwards, they will walk around with residents and their neighbors to observe, diagnose, and recommend remedies for landscape problems. A Question and Answer period will close the clinic. Clinics begin at 6:30 pm and last for about 75 minutes.

Wed., May 4

Edgehill, Yorktown

Wed., May 11

Creekside Landing - Queens Lake Area

To register and obtain directions contact Jody at the Extension Office. Any questions please contact Rebecca Cho at 565-7050 or tombeccacho@cox.net.

Chair Of Excellence Endowment Fund: The Virginia Master Gardener Association is seeking to establish an endowment at Virginia Tech. "The project has already received an anonymous donation of \$50,000 to the endowment fund," said William McCaleb, president of VMGA and the coordinator of the Halifax County Master Gardener program. "The organization has been challenged to match the gift."

"The anonymous donor willing to invest such a large gift to initiate an endowed Chair of Excellence for the Master Gardener program is evidence that Virginians value Extension's quality education tied to the commitment of trained volunteers and the impact this program has on Virginia communities." said Patricia Sobrero, director of Virginia Cooperative Extension.

The endowment will support the state Master Gardener coordinator's position – the person who provides administrative and subject-matter leadership to ensure the training offers the most up-to-date education.

The Master Gardener's website is www.vmganet.net. For information on how to contribute, contact Max Bales, director of development for Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Virginia Beach Master Gardeners PLANT SALE: Saturday, May 14, 2005 (Rain or Shine), 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Virginia Beach Farmer's Market (Corner of Princess Anne Road & Dam Neck Road), Virginia Beach
For more information visit: www.vbmg.org.

Pest Alert -- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

In case you haven't seen any information about this pest yet, please visit:
http://www.ncipmc.org/NewsAlerts/Stink_Bug_Pest_Alert.pdf

The Pest Alert sheet says that they have found these in western Maryland in 2003 and West Virginia as of last year. The host plant list is rather extensive, too.

David D. Close, VCE State Master Gardener Coordinator, Virginia Tech Department of Horticulture
540-231-2714; <http://www.hort.vt.edu/mastergardener/>

Water Steward Training: The Water Steward program is coming together. There will be 8 classes in September, October and November on Tuesday mornings in three different locations in James City County. York County is allotted eight slots and there is a \$40 fee. Topics covered will include Peninsula soil, habitats, laws, VIMS and basic water chemistry. A flyer with more details may be available at the May 10 Planning Meeting. If not, contact Joanne Roberts for more information. **Joanne Roberts**

Sunshine Fund Report: At the general membership meeting on April 12th, the membership voted to change the Sunshine Fund. It was decided to only send cards to MG's who have surgery or long term illness, as well as for a birth of a baby. In the past MG's were sent flowers or some other gift at these times. We still will send flowers for in the event of the death of an MG or their spouse or child. There was a balance of \$104.83 at the end of 2003. Collections for 2004 amounted to \$317.23 and \$303.92 was spent for gifts. Ten gifts were given and 15 cards were sent. We ended 2004 with a balance of \$118.13. We have collected \$168.17 so far in 2005, and spent \$32.25, giving a current balance of \$254.05. This money will stay in the fund to buy cards, stamps and flowers (for deaths). Please continue to let me know when you hear of an illness, surgery, birth or death. My email is maryfrancesbaker@cox.net and my phone is 898-6773. **Mary Frances Baker**

May 2005

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Master Gardener College Registration, Bring registration sheet to the VCE- York Office	2	3	4 Plant Health Clinic, Edgehill – 6:30pm	5	6 MG Advanced Training - Chesapeake Central Library, (757) 683-2816	7 <i>Learning Garden Plant Sale, 9:00-Noon</i>
8	9	10 9:30-11:30 Monthly Planning Meeting	11 Plant Health Clinic, Creekside Landing, Williamsburg 6:30pm	12 Learning Garden Meeting, 9:30am	13 Master Gardener College Registra- tion due to the Office	14 Virginia Beach MG Plant Sale, 9-3:00
15	16	17	18 4-H Mum Project Registration Deadline	19	20	21
22	23	24 10:15 Hort Therapy, York Convalescent Center	25 9:30-11:30, Landscape Series, Linda Pinkham 6:30, 4-H Mum Project Orientation Meeting	26 12:00-1:00 WHRO-89.5 “GARDENING HEARSAY”	27	28
29	30	31	June 1 6:30 4-H Mum Project Horticultural Training	June 2	June 3	June 4 9:30, Jr. 4-H Camp Counselor Training 10:30-12:00, MG Summer Social, Waterman's Museum